

I feel that the proposal to loosen federal regulations on broadcast media ownership is a very serious threat to the American way of life. By allowing fewer and fewer corporations control over media outlets, the FCC would be responsible for degrading the quality and diversity of voices that are available to the people. Not only will this effectively silence some, I feel this would also result in programming and content that caters to the lowest common denominator in order to increase the profits for the few owners.

You cannot convince me or the 170,00+ other people whom have spoken up regarding this issue that this proposal is a step in the right direction. John Stuart Mill, in "On Liberty", wrote:

"THE time, it is to be hoped, is gone by when any defence would be necessary of the "liberty of the press" as one of the securities against corrupt or tyrannical government. No argument, we may suppose, can now be needed, against permitting a legislature or an executive, not identified in interest with the people, to prescribe opinions to them, and determine what doctrines or what arguments they shall be allowed to hear."

By pushing this proposal through, you would be directly responsible for deciding what the American people are allowed to hear.

Please do the right thing and DO NOT relax the media ownership rules. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,
Jason Shields